



**Royal  
Pharmaceutical  
Society**  
of Great Britain

**General  
Pharmaceutical  
Council**  
*Working towards a new body  
for pharmacy regulation*

For immediate release

24 May 2010

### **RPSGB and GPhC target September for transfer of pharmacy regulatory responsibility**

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (RPSGB) and the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) have today announced their intention to complete the work for the transfer of the regulatory functions of the Society to the GPhC as the new pharmacy regulator by the end of September this year.

Both organisations are confident that this target date for the transfer is attainable as a result of constructive discussions both with each other and with the Department of Health and the devolved administrations. These discussions anticipate that the necessary processes, including the parliamentary process, will be concluded to allow a September timetable to be adhered to.

The Councils of the RPSGB and the GPhC have also jointly announced that Duncan Rudkin, Chief Executive and Registrar of the GPhC, will assume the role of Registrar when Helen Gordon becomes Chief Executive of the RPSGB in July.

The RPSGB Council felt that separating the two roles traditionally held by its most senior executive would help pave the way for the transfer of regulation to the GPhC. Equally the GPhC felt that the arrangement would offer Duncan Rudkin the opportunity to develop further working relationships which will facilitate a smooth transition for the staff and others involved in the delivery of the regulatory functions.

Steve Churton RPSGB President said; "I am delighted that we can announce our intended date of demerger and should like to express my appreciation that Duncan, an experienced regulator, has agreed to advance his responsibility to encompass the RPSGB's existing regulatory functions. His appointment is positive for both organisations as it will help ease the transfer of regulatory accountability to the GPhC."

Bob Nicholls, GPhC Chair, said; "The GPhC is pleased that a firm target date for becoming operational has now been agreed and looks forward to becoming the new independent regulator for the pharmacy profession. In his new role Duncan will continue to be employed by, and be the Chief Executive and Registrar of, the GPhC but will be fully accountable for RPSGB regulatory matters to the Council of the Society until transfer takes place. From our point of view, we share the RPSGB's conviction that this arrangement will be beneficial to both organisations now and for the future."

Ends

**Note to editors:**

1. Finalisation of the transfer will require Privy Council and Parliamentary processes to be completed.
2. For further information from the RPSGB, please contact their media team on 020 7572
3. For further information from the GPhC, please contact Emma Beals on 020 3365 3505